

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the final Office Action mailed March 25, 2008. The status of the application is as follows:

- Claims 1, 4-14 and 16-20 are pending, and claim 2 has been cancelled herein; and
- Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gutta (US 6,724,159 B2).

The rejections are discussed below.

Allowed Claims 1, 4-14 and 16-20

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1, 4-14 and 16-20 are allowed

The Rejection of Claim 2

Claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, the rejection of claim 2 is moot. It is noted that claim 2 has not been cancelled herein from further consideration in this application for issues of patentability, but instead for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. Applicant is not conceding in this application that the cancelled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue cancelled claim 2 and/or other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is submitted that claims 1, 4-14, and 16-20 distinguish patentably over the prior art of record. An early indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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